



The North Wind

Newsletter of the Barony of Lions Gate



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About the North Wind

This is the December 2008 – January 2009 issue of The North Wind, a publication of the **Barony of Lions Gate**, of the **Society for Creative Anachronism**, Inc. (SCA, Inc.) The North Wind is available from the Chronicler, Cassandra Caunce (Lady Ceara inghean uí Mhadadháin), 18025 - 63 Avenue, Cloverdale, BC, V3S 6W8, ccaunce@shaw.ca. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.

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On the Cover:

Scenes from September Crown ASXLIII by Lady Ceara inghean uí Mhadadháin

The Baron's Column

Baron Griffin ap Bedwyr

I'm afraid that once again we are forced to say good-bye to one of our own. Jarl Sir Barak Ravensfuri Lion of An Tir died on Monday November 17th. This is a loss not only to the SCA, An Tir, and Tir Righ but it hits particularly close to home, as Barak was a part of my household. He was squired to Sir Oak Guntherson and was the first of Oak's squires to be Knighted, and the first to sit the throne. Lion of An Tir, Knight, Pelican awards too many to list. His brutal honesty was legendary as was his taste in colourful gambesons. My first contact with Barak was at my second event, September Crown 1987, where he won his first Silver Rose, he was King when I went to Estella (there are many stories there, many I cannot share here), he was Kingdom Earl Marshal when I became Northern Regional Marshal. One of my favourite memories though is of him with tears of laughter streaming from his eyes after his opponent had just struck himself in the cup and fallen dead. Barak insisted they



continue the fight but it was awhile before he could stop laughing long enough to begin.

Rest in peace my brother, you will be missed.

Caitrin and I would like to take this time to wish you all a very happy Christmas season. With a new Prince and Princess on the Storm Thrones we anticipate a full and exciting year to come. We also look forward to our Baronial Yule Banquet. With the change of date for this event we will have a little more seasonal festiveness at this gathering. Hope to see many of you there.

In December of 1154 Henry II was crowned King of England, it was also in December that Henry reconciled with Thomas Beckett, Archbishop of Canterbury. The reconciliation would not last long and things would go badly for both of them, though considerably worse for Beckett. ❄



From the (not looking so interim) Chronicler

Lady Ceara inghean uí Mhadadháin

I've had a couple of people approach me about the job (YAY) so I thought, in the interest of, well, interest, I'd publish here what the job generally entails.

General Requirements

- A Greater Officer of the Barony must have a valid SCA membership in order to be Warranted (where the Crown grants authority to do the job)
- Officers serve a two year term but if you need to step down before then, by all means, start the process.
- Attend the monthly Baronial Council meetings to provide a report (make an effort to get to most of em at least)
- If you can't attend, send a written report to the Seneshal and Baronial Coronet before the meeting or send your deputy, if you have one.
- Responsible for two lesser offices - Webminister and Library. These offices report to you. You report to Council.
- Must publish 10 issues of the North Wind each year (double issues for Jul-Aug and Dec-Jan). If you wanted to, you could have a deputy that does this and you just approve it.
- Must send Quarterly reports to the Principality Chronicler (or just ensure they get a monthly copy of the North Wind)
- Must have the software required to do the job (min MS Word). Ability to produce pdf file is a major bonus as that the distribution format of the newsletter.

- Must be aware of and abide by copyright laws. This is very important and applies to the website too.
- The Kingdom Chronicler's Handbook clearly defines what you can and cannot do. Honour, chivalry and common sense will serve you well. And if you're unsure about something, there's always tons of resources to draw from.

Other stuff

- At Council meetings, take meeting notes/minutes. Some officers send you their reports for inclusion of the notes/minutes which is nice. If you don't want to do this, feel free to reinstate the Lesser Office of Baronial Secretary which is a right of your Office.
- If you want to take a deputy or fill a lesser office, you don't necessarily need Council approval but they should be informed. It's important to keep the Seneschal and the Baronial Coronet happy!
- The North Wind must be published / released within a week of the Baronial Council meeting.



From the Baronial Archer

HL James Wolfden, OGS

Royal Rounds in December used to be something Lions Gate Archers could only dream about. Cold, wet and miserable weather seldom encourages anyone to make a trip out to the archery range. But now our archers will have a chance to hone their skills and submit Royal Round scores.

Once a month, the Barony will be hosting a Special Archery Practice at the Cloverdale Agriplex that will give us a full 40-yard range. The schedule for these Special Archery Practices are:

December 8
January 19
February 16
March 23

- When you take the Office, you swear an oath of fealty to the Barony and/or Coronet.
- Ever need help? There is a lot to be found. The handbook, the Seneschal, past Chroniclers, Principality and Kingdom Chroniclers, the Chronicler Yahoo Group, any deputies you might have - all good sources of info and assistance.

For me, I generally spend about 8-14 hours cranking out an edition of the North Wind and about 10 mins to an hour doing Council notes (after the meeting). Other little bits just kind of happen and I deal with them immediately so they don't take up too much time (which is very infrequent).

If you are interested in becoming my Publishing Deputy and/or Deputy Chronicler-in-Training, please send me some brief information about you and your qualifications as well as any questions or comments you might have on the information above. ✨

Our first Special Archery Practice in November had 14 archers out shooting. This is good but we can do better. If we want to keep our practice fee at \$3, we will need to see more archers coming out. We need 30 archers to make it out each night to cover the rental.

Impossible? No, it is not. There are more than 30 archers in the Barony. We just need you to come out. We need you to bring your friends. Never shot before? Come on out and we will coach you.

Interested in making the Lions Gate Company of Archers? You could have all your Royal Round Averages and your IKAC requirements done before the outdoor season begins.

Nowhere to shoot your crossbow? We can do crossbow here.

How about you make it a family outing? In addition to the regular Royal Round range, I will also set up a children's range.

Not interested in Royals? I am sure we can arrange for a game of Hoyles, a wand shoot, or set up some oversized stuffed teddy bears.

Cloverdale isn't really all that hard to find and neither is the site. From Highway #1, from East or West - take the 176th Street/Cloverdale exit to Cloverdale. Or take Highway #10 which runs right through Cloverdale and turn on to 176th Street. Border crossings: again, follow the signs to Cloverdale - the truck crossing is 176th

Street on the Canadian side of the border, the Peace Arch crossing will lead you to Hwy #10.

Once you are on 176th in Cloverdale, the entrance to the site is located between 60th and 64th Ave at the newly installed traffic light. Turn into the entrance with the huge log arch. Can't miss it, it sticks out like a sore thumb but it may be difficult to see at night. The Agriplex is straight down the little road. Big building. You can't miss it. There is *tons* of parking.

So wax your bows, sharpen your points, and plan out your carpools. See you there! ✨

From the Dragonward

Winifryd Euphemia Doiron

Hello and welcome to Dragonward 2.0!

Two months ago I was officially made the newest Dragonward, the office with the coolest title. Since it's been a year since Genevieve Barbota stepped down, some of you may not recall what a Dragonward does.

Simply put, a Dragonward tries to organize rides for people needing them, and to find riders or gear for people who have space in their vehicles - to events.

However, I want to kick off my term as Dragonward, by taking things in a whole new direction - the digital age. While we are a medieval society, our transportation, and our ability to attend events is dependant on modern technology.

My three stage plan is roughly as follows:

- 1) To create and maintain a web forum where people can post looking for rides, or advertise that they have space in their vehicles, while maintaining a phone messaging system for those who don't have access to internet;



- 2) Wildly promote the Dragonward program at events, practices, and through frequent rider/driver initiatives;
- 3) Take over the Knowne World by developing a network of Dragonwards and rider/driver resources throughout the Kingdom and beyond.

I've started the first part of my plan now, and so without further ado I introduce to you - Dragonward 2.0, a web forum for your use.

Check it out at www.dragonward.ca

Oddly enough .ca wasn't taken, but .com is run by a lady breeding miniature Schnauzer puppies, go figure.

If you don't have internet, you can also phone the Dragonward hotline (number to be published as soon as it's up) - It's a VOIP voice mail system. You can leave a detailed message regarding the ride you need or the space you have. I'll be transcribing the message into the forum on your behalf, adding it into the digest I'll be sending to the email lists, and then get back to you with any information or leads I have for you. Please pass this on to any off-line friends you may have.

I can also be reached at lionsgate@dragonward.ca and you can also subscribe to my calendar of SCA events on Google calendars through lgdragonward@gmail.com.

Please give me feedback! Let me know what you think of the forum, how it can improved, what you love, what you hate. This is a service for the public, so if it's not functional or useful for the public, I need to know! ✨



Council Highlights

October 22, 2008

- We have a new Captain of the Watch. Garrett (mka Dave Sharpe) has stepped up to the position.
- A record number of fighters entered the lists at Baroness' Birthday Tourney.
- Rapier practice will be changing location in December
- Discussion over re-vamping/rejuvenating the bransles. Possibly add themes – sergeantry, service, specific classes – in addition to the dancing and socializing.
- Gold Key – We really need someone to do it – perfect for someone new. Easy now because it's just tabards.
- Our new Dragonward has been working on developing a forum specifically for ride finders and ride providers. Basically ready to launch it so keep an eye out for the announcement. The forum was the idea as she is not available during the nights (working).
- Investiture went really well and there was even a photo on the cover of the Maple Ridge Times about it.
- Baroness' Tourney also went really well after an interesting beginning and we made some money. Site was spacious but not so great for a party afterwards.
- Talked about doing a Tir Righ University session jointly with Eisenmarche in April. They will Autocrat, Elena will Dean.
- Celtic Fest Demo in March. Kevin had a chat with the fellow who is organizing the Celtic Fest. Apparently there was a slight misunderstanding over what we do as the contract that was sent was rather amusing, to say the least. Even so, the exposure would be really, really good – as big or bigger than Science World. Uilliam spoke the gentleman and sorted a number of things out. Negotiations and edjumentation is underway. Generally it sounds pretty cool. All agreed we'll do it. The Event Known as Steve will have to be cancelled to accommodate.
- Clinton Biffies – Chang has come up with a new standardized modular biffie design so they would be cheap and easy to build plus use space more efficiently. The doors are so large they are accessible even to folks with disabilities. The legal and financial issues need to be looked at more in depth before making a decision.
- Call for ideas for Clinton 30 year anniversary to be put in the North Wind.
- Newcomers/A&S Combo event - John is going to run the competition part and Morweena is going to organize the classes. Lots of really neat ideas to revitalize the event are being worked on.
- The Super Demo - An invention of Raknar in the very preliminary stages. Wants to do 3 major demos around BC to try to bring in new members. Ideas are welcome. An event that is specifically a demo that is publicly promoted.
- Boy Scouts are looking for a demo the weekend of Twelfth Night (Jan 9-11) at the Camp Maclean Demo. They are doing a Robin Hood theme. Larger than past demos.

- Baronial Banquet – Ticket sales are very, very low. Only 42 tickets sold and 11 on reserve. Break even is 70 and we can sell up to 150. Perhaps it may be worth considering another date to do this event – spring? ✱



Calendar of Events

Events with information included in this issue of the North Wind are indicated in bold.

December

- 6 Baronial Banquet**
 6 Yule Revel (Seagirt)
 13 Yuletide Revel (Ramsgaard)
 17 Baronial Council*
 19 Bransle
 31 New Year's Event (Lionsdale)

February

- 7-8 A&S Defenders/Days of
 Dance/Newcomers (TBA)
 14-15 Shitemwoode Spring Ithra
 25 Baronial Council*
 27 Bransle

January

- 9-11 An Tir Twelfth Night (Adiantum)
 17 White Court (Hartwood)
 23 Bransle
 23-25 Ursulmas XXVII (Aquaterra)
 28 Baronial Council*
 31 Tournament of Roses (Danescombe)

***Lions Gate Baronial Council** is where the "business" side of the Barony is run. All members are encouraged to attend council. Council is held on the 4th Wednesday of the month, 7:30pm at the home of HL Uilliam (our Seneschal) and his lovely wife, HL Caitrina. The address is 3174 Sechelt Drive in Coquitlam.

Please contact the Seneschal, HL Uilliam mac Fearchar mhic Gille Aindraais (Mark Hood) if you have any questions or business for Council. He can be reached at (604) 785-4961 or via mhood@shaw.ca.

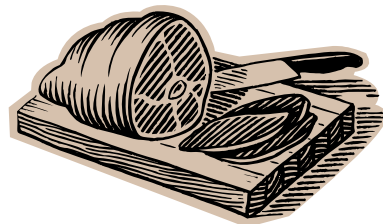
Baronial Banquet

December 6, 2008

Once again the Barony of Lions Gate will be getting out the good silverware as we invite everyone to join us on December 6th, 2008 for our Baronial Banquet. This year we are going back to basics with an English Castle Banquet. Our head cook has brought out some well loved recipes from the renowned Lions Gate cook book and adding a few other tried and true dishes. Children under 12 and eat off parents plates are welcome, unfortunately pets are not.

Sunbury Hall
 10409 Dunlop Road
 North Delta, BC

Doors open 5pm and dinner at 6pm
 There will be an "after dinner" site fee if you wish to join in later in the evening.
 Tickets \$22.00 can be purchased from Dame Elena de Maisnilwarin at (604) 522-1255 or from the Autocrat Algae McBeign (604) 599-1617, angie@telus.net. NMS will be charged at the door. ✱





A Call for Ideas – Clinton War

Next August will be the 30th Anniversary of the Clinton War. Hard to believe, yes, but time flies when you're having fun! The Barony would like to make a concerted effort to work together and make this a true celebration and very memorable so the call is going out for ideas on how to make this so. If you have an idea or two, big or small, please send them via email to ccaunce@shaw.ca. All these ideas will be collected and presented to the Clinton Committee and Baronial Council. The ideas

can be for anything related to the war or work week - biffies, activities, site layout, the castle, event admin - whatever you want! No idea too crazy or too small will be dismissed and all will be presented for consideration. So here's your chance to contribute to the Barony's biggest event of the year. Don't miss out on this chance! Submit to ccaunce@shaw.ca by Monday, December 15th. ✨

A rather large..

In having a gander at the calendar of events over the current year, it's barely sufficient to say that we've had a busy one. Averaging two events hosted a month – plus practices, bransles and meetings – that adds up to a lot of hours doing what we all love. This time of year always makes one reflect on these things so this is a big thank you to all those out there who help to make these things



happen. From the Baronial

Officers to Autocrats and gate people and general “I'm here, put me to work” people - every single person who puts in even a little bit of time to help make these things a reality. It takes a lot of work so here's a hearty “Huzzah” just for you! Thanks for volunteering your time. You are greatly appreciated by many! ✨

The Annual Boxing Day Bash!!

Once again on Boxing Day you are all invited to the Home of Colin, Alastair and Inga for what has become a Lions Gate tradition over the last 20 odd years. All food and drink is supplied we only ask that you come and enjoy yourselves, no presents necessary. The hot tub will be on and all seasonal treats: Turkey, ham, plum pudding, mince tarts, and eggnog will be on offer. If you have never been at this party what are you waiting for? If you have been you know

the way! We are easily accessible by transit and are located at 4224 Hoskins Rd. North Vancouver (604) 986-9460. This is a mundane party, ie a Boxing Day Party not a St. Stephen's' Day Revel! There likely will be some of our mundane friends present, so remember that how you act will be how the SCA is judged by others! The party will commence at about 3:00 P.M. on Friday December 26 and end when it ends!! ✨

Archers of the Mary Rose

Master John Macandrew, OP



It is thought that the number of men on the Mary Rose when she sank numbered between 500 and 700. To estimate those who would be archers we could look at the number of bows (which was 250) but that number is questionable as it is the duty of archers to supply their own bows. As well, bows were recovered still in crates therefore not issued.

Of the bodies thought to be archers the following was discovered:

- thickened left forearms,
- spinal deformations,
- changes to shoulder blades, possibly from of heavy bows,
- ages in their early 20's,
- large men, roughly 6 feet tall, and
- massively boned.

When comparing bow sizes to archer's height, a bow between 6 and 7 feet matches archers 5'7 to 6'.

During the battle in 1545 Henry's plan was not to engage the French fleet who outnumbered him 225 ships to 60. He wanted to draw them in and use shore batteries. So, what was the function of the archers on the Mary Rose?

Books suggest:

- Sharpshooters, range finders, and to battle ashore.

Other options:

- Flaming arrows (two heavy leather mitts were found)
- Ship defence, if the battled soured

Archer's Clothing

Jack

A Jack is a stiff leather sleeveless jerkin, possibly capable of giving some protection against slashing cuts, glancing arrows or shrapnel. One was found near an archer and is presumed to be his. These 12 jerkins were oak-tanned calf skin.

Bracers

Twelve bracers have been recovered from the site. Eleven are leather and one is bone. Three of the leather bracers were embossed with the Royal arms, the Tudor Rose and Castle as well as the pomegranate for Catherine of Aragon. The ivory bracer survived by being buried under a coil of tarred rope.

Arrow Clips

Arrows were found either tied in bundles of 24 or in arrow clips. Each clip would have 24 holes, each a ½ inch in diameter. The clips have stitch marks suggesting a cloth bag would have been sewn to the clip to cover the arrows.

Mary Rose Bows

Henry VIII had intended on maintaining archery as part of his war arsenal. He had ordered 40,000 staves from Venice and had passed a number of laws requiring all male citizens to practice. There was also strict rules to the quality of equipment produced by both bow and arrow makers.

The Anthony Roll listed 250 bows of yew on the Mary Rose.

Archaeological evidence has produced the following evidence:

- 167 yew self bows recovered.
- All bows constructed with heartwood and sapwood.
- Bow length 1.80 - 2.06 meter (6' 1 1/2" - 6' 11") average 6' 6".
- Bow weight 80 - 180 lbs with most in the 100-120 range.
- Suggested evidence of horn nocks (discoloration of the ends).
- No evidence of hand grips. (There was evidence of feathers through glue marks and the discoloration of wood).
- 80% of the bows are marked with stamp marks.
- Bows had either knots removed or areas around knots raised.



- Most bows slightly reflexed. This could be from the drying rates of the heart and sap wood, or from steaming.
- Some bows were "whipped", reducing the limb before the horn nocks to increase limb speed.
- None of the bows showed arrow rub.
- Some bows had been strung when the ship sank (bow set).

We have looked at facts. Now let's look at some possibilities.

Henry VIII had ordered that all men of capable age would shoot longbows and that fathers were responsible in providing bows for their sons. The Anthony Roll lists 250 bows on board and none of the recovered bows show any sign of usage.



- Had the archers brought their own bows on board?
- The bows that had been strung were issued but never fired?
- The bows that had been whipped were modified before battle but never fired?
- Although bowyers were ordered to make 4 other bows to every yew bow, why were only yew bows found?
- Is there a possibility of a small leather wrap where the arrows would rest as no arrow rub had been noted?

Mary Rose Arrows

The arrows found on the Mary Rose represent the only certifiable English medieval arrows existing today. Since 1979, over 2000 arrows have been recovered (poplar, beech, ash, and hazel). The Anthony Roll listed the ship as carrying 400 sheaves (9600 arrows) and 6 gross of bowstrings (864).

With marine micro-organisms being very partial to horn, none of the bone inserts survived.

However, by looking at the glue stains for the feathers, the depth of the slot for the horn insert, and the slot width we can learn many things.

Arrow length

The majority of the arrows on the Mary Rose were between 30 and 31.5 inches. With a bodkin point added on these arrows would have drawn between 28 and 29 inches comfortably. A percentage of the arrows were shorter (as short as 27 inches). As this would have been a shooting hazard they would have to have been used for special circumstances.

Arrow diameter

The majority of the Mary Rose arrows were $\frac{1}{2}$ diameter shafts. They were tapered to $\frac{3}{8}$ ths at the feathers (bobtailed). This tapering would have made for better arrow clearance.

Reinforced nocks

The nock end of the arrow was tapered to $\frac{3}{8}$ th (still larger than our largest SCA target arrow) and had been reinforced with 2 inches of bone. The string slot was $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch. This would leave $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch on either side.

Feathers

All the feathers on the Mary Rose arrows had been eaten away. Traces suggest the feathers were either goose or more likely swan. Fortunately the glue and string wrappings stained the shafts leaving us with some clues. The feathers were approximately 7.5 inches and were definitely tied on.

It is hoped as the years of study on the Mary Rose and her 18,000 artefacts increase some of the questions regarding the reign of Henry VIII and the English Navy will become clearer.*

Compendium



- * **Their Royal Majesties of An Tir** – King Owain ap Einar and Queen Adwen Wrenn (king@antir.sca.org, queen@antir.sca.org).



- * **Their Highnesses of Tir Righ** – Prince Raknar Guntharsson and Princess Chiara La Fiamma (prince@tirrigh.org, princess@tirrigh.org).



- * **Baron & Baroness of Lions Gate** - TE Griffin Ap Bedwyr and Caitrin ni Cingeadh (griffcait@shaw.ca). 12159 – 222 St. Maple Ridge, V2X 5W4.

Officers of Lions Gate

Seneschal HL Uilliam mac Fearchar mhic Gille

Aindrais (mka Mark Hood),
seneschal@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 785-4961

- * **Demo Coordinator** - HL Aelana Cordovera, demo@lionsgate.antir.sca.org
- * **Watch** – Position filled. Contact info coming soon. watch@lionsgate.antir.sca.org
- * **Gold Key** - VACANT
- * **Explorer** - HL Vivien of Shaftsbury explorer@lionsgate.antir.sca.org
- * **Ambassador** - HL Kenneth of Shaftsbury ambassador@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Exchequer HL Anika Steif (mka Christi Frank)

exchequer@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 838-2979

- * **Deputy** - HL Cara d'Aquilla, deputyexchequer@lionsgate.antir.sca.org
- * **Chamberlain** - Sir Sigurd Kerr de Roxburgh, chamberlain@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 520-1733.

Chronicler (*interim*) Lady Ceara inghean ui

Mhadadhain (mka Cassandra Caunce),
chronicler@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 574-6364,.

- * **Webminister** - Lord Rothgar, webminister@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 856-3653
- * **Librarian** - Lady Mariko librarian@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (778) 885-8152

Chatelaine HL Genevieve Barbota of Gryphonshold

chatelaine@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 872-8550, cell (604) 872-8550

- * **Deputy** - Mistress Katherine Moore, chatelainedeputy@lionsgate.antir.sca.org
- * **Pied Piper** - Tamsyn le Rous (mka Toni Glick), piedpiper@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

- * **Pied Piper Deputy** - Illyria di Firenze, piedpiperdeputy@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (778) 238-7811

- * **Dragonward** (rides to events) - Winifryd Euphemia Doiron, dragonward@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

Arts & Sciences Master John Macandrew (mka John Mail), artsandsciences@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 524-1509

- * **Bard** – HL Sionann in Ui Fhlaitheartaig, bardicarts@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

* **Dance** - VACANT

* **Games** - VACANT

Herald (aka Sable Loat Pursuivant) Lord Caemgen

mac Garbith (mka Kevin Garvey),
herald@lionsgate.antir.sca.org

- * **Voice Herald** - HL Uilliam mac Fearchar mhic Gille Aindrais, voiceherald@lionsgate.antir.sca.org.

Scribe - HL Miles FitzHubert (mka Robert Nicolls),

scribe@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 534-7124

- * **Deputy** - HL Aelana Cordovera

Stables (aka Marshal) HL Cyneric Bearson (mka Darren Cocking) stables@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 576-4351

- * **Archery** - HL James Wolfden, archery@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 589-3292 (no calls after 10pm please)

- * **Blades** (rapier) - Lord Warwick Drakkar, blades@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604) 838-7466

- * **Lists** - HL Algae McBeign, lists@lionsgate.antir.sca.org, (604)599-1617

* **Chirurgeon** - VACANT

* **Waterbearer** - VACANT

Officer Openings

Anyone who is interested in volunteering for any position should contact the Seneschal, Baron and Baroness at your earliest convenience. For more information about the Offices, either just ask or look it up on the An Tir website